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WHAT'S HANGING BEHIND LAS VEGAS JOURNALISTS CLOSED DOORS?

by cindir. maciolek | photography by jim k. decker

t's not breaking news that we here at Luxury love fashion. For us, fashion is always the lead story. And, when we get a chance to go behind the scenes for an in-depth style segment on locals we love, it's even more fun.

For this month's Closet Confidential, we turn the camera on four Las Vegas journalists whose friendly faces we welcome into our homes every day. Now it's their turn to expose their most intimate spaces - their closets. Read on for our investigative report on what's hanging behind those closed doors.

No need for B-roll here. Did someone say sweeps?

Many thanks to our four daring journalists who agreed to be part of this story.



 $I^{\prime}d$ say mix and match – a blend of vintage and modern, a whole range of more expensive pieces combined with great finds from vintage stores.

I'll wear a couple of anchor pieces, then mix them with the vintage. My signature pieces are my hats, glasses, belts and shoes. They're the tattoos on my fashion.

Who are your favorite designers/brands?

I have a Gucci problem.

My suits are Versace, John Varvatos, Dolce & Gabbana and Boss. I believe you can tell the difference between a cheap suit and a well-made suit. By wearing these suits, I also honor the art and craftsmanship of the people who created them.

Do you have any favorite stores?

I find vintage things everywhere. I troll eBay all the time looking for vintage eyewear and watches.

I also love Tom Ford, Gucci, John Varvatos, Ferragamo for shoes and belts. Did I say Gucci?

What's the most sentimental item in your closet?

My grandmother, Fernie, made all these afghans by hand. She was poor as a church mouse but saved her money to buy yarn. She flew away from this world under that afghan. What's the oddest thing in your closet? Me?

Probably my meditation altar. It's not odd to me, but some people think it is. I

come in here and set my intention then select my clothes. I call my closet the Zen den.

What about those Emmys up there?

I view them as monuments to the people whose stories I told. They have nothing to do with me. I got to partner with the families and codify their experiences.

How would someone describe the person who lives in this closet?

They'd get it wrong. They'd see all the designer names in some of the clothes and think I was about all that. I'm so not. I'd be fine in a T-shirt and jeans.

If you could trade closets with anyone, who would that be?

Can I pick two? Tom Ford and John Varvatos.

What's your go-to outfit?

On air, usually this charcoal gray John Varvatos suit with a Versace tie.

Casual, generally jeans and a T-shirt with a smokin' pair of Gucci shoes and a belt.

For writing, these three plaid shirts. One is Diesel.

Talk to me about your shoes.

Well, Gucci. I also love the new Magnanni shoes. It's great Italian leather. I always have a pair of Ferragamo driving loafers, and I buy vintage Florsheim shoe trees.

Shoes are your signature that you pound into the earth. You honor your physical presence by having a good pair of shoes.

You have quite a selection of hats.

I love hats. I have a lot of hair, and I hate having to comb it. With a hat you can put yourself together quickly. A hat is a wink to the sky. They remind me of moments from my life — walks on the beach with the kids, lazy Sundays drinking coffee and running triathlons.

I own Louis Vuitton and Gucci hats in addition to all the others. I think you can rock a Gucci hat with a suit.

What's your biggest wardrobe indulgence?

I bought this great Italian suede jacket in Miami by Campagna Della Pelli. I can't believe I spent so much on a jacket, but it's a beautiful piece I'll have for a long time.

I'm almost always in casual clothes. When it comes to the job, I "work" the suit, but once the cameras are off, you'll catch me in running shorts or workout clothes. I pretty much live in Lululemon when I'm not on camera. My entire wardrobe consists of suits, workout clothes and jeans with long sleeve tops.

Who are your favorite designers/brands?

For work, I like Perry Ellis, Calvin Klein, Ted Baker, Alfani and the Saks house brand. I also like Ben Sherman, but I haven't bought any of that brand in a while.

For play, I have DKNY and Zara in my closet.

Do you have any favorite stores?

You'll find me shopping mostly at the Premium Outlets and Nordstrom Rack. I'm not the kind of person who spends a lot of money on clothes. I just can't do it. The clothes don't have to be expensive to look good on television, and I tend to have an eye for what looks good on me.

I also shop at the stores where I buy my favorite brands: Saks, Macy's, Lululemon, Zara.

What's the most sentimental item in your closet?

Can I say my Peyton Manning jersey? I'm not really a sentimental guy so I don't have anything like that in my closet.

What's the oddest thing in your closet?

We celebrated my brother's 50th birthday in Mexico City and I bought this Mexican wrestling mask. It looks exactly like something from the movie Nacho Libre.

How would someone describe the person who lives in this closet?

The person who lives in this closet definitely likes sports. He has a professional career, but he's also athletic. And he has three racks full of ties.

If you could trade closets with anyone, who would that be?

Definitely Pierce Brosnan from about 20 years ago. He was so sophisticated, and as one of the Bond guys, well, what can I say. I also think Jude Law is cool. I'd trade with him.

What's your go-to outfit?

To go out at night I usually wear a pair of Joe's Jeans, a white T-shirt then

either a V-neck sweater like George Clooney or a button down shirt.

I like things with top stitching. I have an eye for clothes with a little extra subtle something.

Talk to me about your sports stuff.

I travel all over the place, so I always pick up a hat or a shirt whenever I go to a game. Sometimes people buy them for me.

I have a little bit of everything. I attended the University of Arizona, so I have a bunch of Arizona hats, but there's a lot in my collection: Broncos, LA Kings, UNLV, E!, Penguins, Seahawks, Colts, Miami Hurricanes, Whalers, Cubs, Blackhawks, the Cobalt 400.

I have hats from three Japanese baseball teams: Hanshin Tigers, Yakult Swallows and

the Yamiuri Giants.

I jog a lot, so I also have some jogging beanies.

Tell me about your shoes.

For work, I wear mostly Cole Haan and Steve Madden.

However, as you can see, I have a lot of sports shoes. Right now my favorite is the ASICS Kayano. It's a great running shoe.

Do you wear any jewelry?

I don't really like any sort of jewelry or chains, but I do wear this Tiffany bracelet. It's light enough that I don't really notice it. I don't wear a watch either. As long as I have my cell phone, I know what time it is.



Classic, well-structured and colorful. I like color, but off the clock I'm more subdued. I wear a lot of grays and blacks. I also dress more fun and funky than I do for work. I might wear some boyfriend jeans, a Rolling Stones concert T-shirt and a tuxedo jacket.

Who are your favorite designers/brands?

I'm not super brand loyal. If I see something I like and I think it will work for the camera, with a good cut and color, I'll buy it. You won't see me wearing a lot of patterns or textures because they're not good for HDTV. Ninety-five percent of clothing I buy is for work.

I do love Cache, Ted Baker, David Meister and Elie Tahari.

Do you have any favorite stores?

I'm a good discount shopper. For me, it's more about quantity than quality because I only wear something a few times and inexpensive

clothes can look great on TV. I shop the Premium Outlets for J. Crew, DVF, Tahari, St. John and Tory Burch. If I see something I like, I might buy it in a few colors. TJMaxx is another favorite store for shirts and jackets, and viewers have run into me at Marshall's. Chico's is a great place for me to find jewelry. What's the most sentimental item in your closet?

It would probably be the ruby ring from my parents. It's a family heirloom.

I also love these Tony Lama cowboy boots I bought at a second-hand store in San Antonio. What's the oddest thing in your closet?

Most people would be surprised that I wear a lot of Converse All-Stars. I also keep one of my Emmy awards in here and dress it up with my jewelry.

How would someone describe the person who lives in this closet?

Very organized and tidy, almost to a fault.

She's a professional woman, but if you look deeper, you can see that she likes to break out and have fun. There's more personality there, although this closet is built for what I do five days a week, which is a journalist.

I do keep a calendar in here where I write down what I wear to work every day so I can keep track and mix things up a bit.

If you could trade closets with anyone, who would that be?

Diane Kruger and Cate Blanchett. They're elegant and tasteful. On the red carpet, they wear memorable and unique outfits without being showy.

What's your go-to outfit?

Work is easy-peasy. It starts with Spanx, then a dress, then I jooj it up with some jewelry. We have a stylist who works with us twice a year to help our wardrobes look current. Right now, we're not wearing jackets. It's all about dresses. I used to wear a lot of suits, but I currently only own a handful of them and I wear them as separates.

For evening, I have a great St. John dress that was an indulgence even though I bought it at the outlet. I've had it for about five years, and it still looks great. I can change up the look with accessories so it can either be sophisticated or funky.

Talk to me about your shoes.

I don't wear a lot of heels, mostly wedges and flats as a pop of color. We walk a lot at the studio, plus I've had three foot surgeries, so I don't need to wear a high heel to put together a great outfit. I do have a pair of St. John gold toe black heels, which I love but I don't wear them too often.

How does your work wardrobe differ from your play wardrobe?

I'm so much more casual. In the summer I'll wear a maxi skirt with either my Converse or flip flops. I have a ton of J. Crew T-shirts and my boyfriend jeans. I feel like I play dress-up every day for work, so I don't even like to wear make-up on my days off.

Do you wear any jewelry?

Quiet bracelets.

I actually have quite a bit of jewelry, but I never spend a lot of money on it. I'll buy from Chico's, J. Crew, Stein Mart, Cost Plus, Banana Republic. I have so much I really don't need any more.

DENISE VALDEZ KLAS-TV anchor

I'm professional say sophisticated, and my closet is set up to support that. Sometimes I have to be ready to go on a moment's notice, and here I can just grab and go.

I'm casual on my off days - tennis shoes, sweatpants. In the summer, I'll wear a maxi dress and Michael Kors sandals.

When I wear a lot of makeup, my son says it reminds him that I have to go to work, so when I'm off, I feel a sense of freedom. I can be who I authentically am.

Who are your favorite designers/brands?

My top three for work are Tahari, Anne Klein and Calvin Klein. Tahari accentuates the waist and makes you look trimmer. These three also have the right look for broadcasting with a single button or three button jacket. I generally wear pants and a jacket to work because it's hard to wear a skirt if I have to climb into a live remote truck.

Some other favorite work brands are St. John knits, Albert Nippon and Ming Wang.

For fun, I like Michael Kors, Tory Burch, Ralph Lauren and Armani.

Do you have any favorite stores?

I shop online a lot, but I do visit Macy's and Off Fifth. I also find a lot of Tahari at the local department stores.

What's the most sentimental item in your closet?

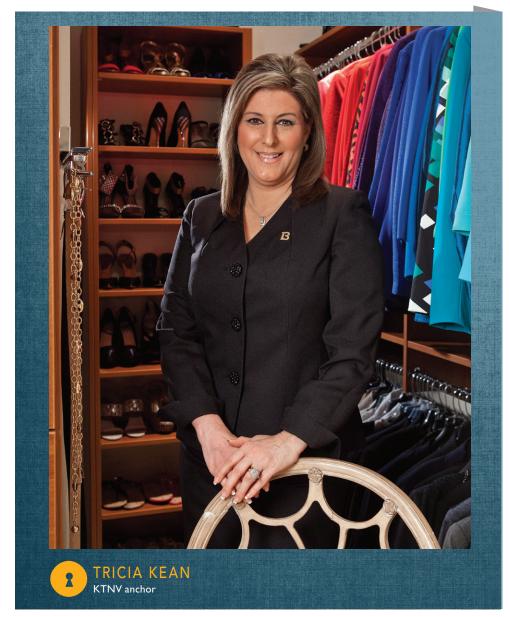
Definitely the Giuseppe Zanotti sandals I wore for my wedding. I love them! He's absolutely my favorite shoe designer, and I've actually met him. I always wanted to marry and have a son, not just be a career woman, and it took me a long time to find my husband. My wedding was so magical for me. I kissed a lot of frogs to find my prince.

What's the oddest thing in your closet?

Probably these photos of special moments in my broadcast career, like the time I had the opportunity to interview Oprah. I'm proud of what I do, but I feel these are an intimate part of my life and my closet is an intimate space. I work so hard that I want my home to be a sanctuary. I don't want to look at photos of my work throughout the house. I think my closet is a good place for them.

How would someone describe the person who lives in this closet?

Professional and organized - with an edge. Someone who likes high heels. There was a time in my life when high heels were called



Tricia Kean shoes because that's all I wore.

If you could trade closets with anyone, who would that be?

Lisa Vanderpump from The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills. She has the most gorgeous closet in pink, white and crystal, full of Chanel suits, jackets and handbags as well as Hermes Birkin bags -- all the things I love.

What's your go-to outfit?

For work, generally black pants, a black turtleneck and a jacket. If the jacket has matching pants, I'll often wear them. Then I'll throw on a leather jacket and boots.

There's an expectation of professionalism in my job and I want to emulate the best -Barbara Walters, Diane Sawyer.

Talk to me about your handbags.

I love Chanel. I own three of them. I also have four Gucci, plus Dior and Ferragamo. I don't buy a new one every season. I'm all about the cost/wear.

My, you have a lot of black boots.

I love patent leather black boots, even if it's just the trim. I own Tory Burch, Via Spiga, Stuart Weitzman.

In general, when it comes to shoes, I own several brands. I love Giuseppe Zanotti, Stuart Weitzman, Michael Kors and Carlos Santana, but I also have Cole Haan, Calvin Klein, DKNY, Steve Madden and Taryn Rose.